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Amendments To The ClaimsListing of Claims**1-81. (canceled).**

**82. (amended)** An isolated human monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof which binds specifically to an osteoprotegerin binding protein, ~~of Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO: 39)~~, wherein the antibody or fragment thereof inhibits osteoclast formation.

**83. (previously presented)** The antibody of Claim 82 which comprises a recombinant antibody or fragment thereof.

**84. (previously presented)** The antibody of Claim 82 which binds specifically to an epitope on an extracellular domain of an osteoprotegerin binding protein or to an epitope on a fragment of an extracellular domain of an osteoprotegerin binding protein.

**85. (amended)** The antibody of Claim 82 which binds specifically to an osteoprotegerin binding protein of amino acid residues 69-317 of ~~Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:39)~~.

**86. (amended)** The antibody of Claim 82 which binds specifically to an epitope on a BB' loop of an osteoprotegerin binding protein of ~~Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:39)~~.

**87. (amended)** The antibody of Claim 82 which binds specifically to an epitope on an EF loop of an osteoprotegerin binding protein of ~~Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:39)~~.

**88. (previously presented)** The antibody of Claim 82 which is present in an amount effective to inhibit bone resorption.

**89. (previously presented)** A composition comprising the antibody of Claim 82 and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent, carrier, solubilizer, emulsifier, preservative and/or adjuvant.

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90. (amended) The composition of Claim 89 further comprising a bone morphogenic factor, a transforming growth factor- $\beta$ , a transforming growth factor- $\beta$  family member, a fibroblast growth factor, an interleukin interleukin-1 inhibitor, a TNF $\alpha$  inhibitor, a parathyroid hormone, an E series prostaglandin, a bisphosphonate, or a bone-enhancing mineral.

91. (previously presented) The antibody of Claim 82 which is obtained by immunization with an osteoprotegerin binding protein comprising the amino acid sequence of Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:39), a membrane associated form thereof, a soluble form thereof, or a fragment thereof.

92. (previously presented) The antibody of Claim 82 which is produced by expression of a nucleic acid encoding the antibody or fragment in a transformed or transfected host cell.